

### New England Approaches.

Though somewhat slowly, to the truth. Here follows a passage from the pen of a correspondent of the Boston Courier, which makes a fit parallel between the sort of sympathy which New England has relatively bestowed upon the African and the Indian races. Had New England been modest enough to listen to any counsellor but its own self-esteem, this comparison would have been made known years ago. It has been repeated by southern writers time out of mind.

An examination of the relative claims to our sympathy, between the Indian and Negro races, will show us that the first were the undisputed possessors of a "free soil" for an unknown period of time, and of which we have despoiled them; while the latter have been bond slaves ever since the curse upon Canaan. The former are capable of self-protection and support; the latter stupid and shiftless—the one the very impetration of freedom; the other, the hereditary representative of useful servitude. The former have been driven, by cruelty and oppression, from their ancestral hunting-grounds, and the means of subsistence on their own domain; while the latter have been provided with shelter and support in comfortable houses, where, with very few exceptions, they have been protected in all which they can enjoy, by their capacity for happiness.

Now, which of these parties have the strongest claims upon our sympathy—the Indian, or the Negro? While the former are driven to the outer verge of our borders, the latter are made the object of unceasing solicitude. For them, social life is to be outraged by familiar intercourse and intermarriage, as advocated by that coterie of Utopian worthies, who formerly occupied "Brook Farm," and disseminated their transcendental fancies throughout the quiet villages of New England, and who have subsequently been aided by the political efforts of the meek Counsellor Sewall, the office-seeking Palfrey, the hypocritical and jesuitical Mann, the "self-sacrificing" dual Sumner, and their conditors, Phillips, Quincy, and others of less venerated parentage. May Heaven avert the calamity, and save us from the reproach of becoming a hybrid community!

From the Georgia Home Gazette.

### Reading.

While, perhaps, there is no means of acquiring knowledge equal in importance to reading, there is no source of information more abused and perverted from what should be its great object and end. Reading is resorted to for amusement and instruction. There can be no reasonable objection to the first, where pleasure and profit are combined. There are many works, however, which when read afford no instruction. Of course, the time devoted to them, is utterly thrown away. But when in addition to lost time is superadded false impressions, dangerous excitations, and improper tendencies, the importance of guarding the young mind by a judicious selection of authors is too plain to be overlooked.

We called the attention not long since, to those who had the control of youth, to the necessity of protecting them against the effects of vicious books. It is not our object, now, to treat upon the same subject. It is rather to offer a few reflections upon the best methods of improvement by reading. Whatever cultivates the taste, enriches the fancy, enlarges thought, improves the judgment and stores the mind with useful facts, is not admissible into our libraries, but worthy of being placed in the hands of the young. Some of our best writers have so mingled injurious fiction, doubtful morality, captivating vice, into their pages, that they are only proper for those whose morals and judgments have been natural. Such persons can separate the good from the evil. They think for themselves, and are not liable to be misled. With them the passions sleep beneath the power of controlling truth. But such is not the case with the young. They cannot experience the vivid, graphic, and soul-stirring descriptions of love and hate, of revenge and despair, of passionate sentiment and dreamy romance, so common in novels, and the various works of fiction, without being misled or captivated by them. But the young and susceptible mind, unguarded by experience and ripened observation and reflection, drinks in their wild and corrupting sentimentality, and becomes often biassed for life into forbidden paths of thought and the baleful gardens of corrupt and dangerous imaginations.

As a general rule, indiscriminate novel reading is injurious to those whose minds are unseasoned by experience, first, because they create a sickly sentimentality incompatible with vigorous mental growth and healthy action, and secondly, because they invariably destroy or impair a taste for the pursuit of useful and solid investigation. History becomes dull and insipid to one whose taste has been moulded into the channel of luxurious verse, or the captivating walks of seductive fiction. He can see but little beauty in the substantial fields of useful facts and life's realities, when a thousand fragrant odors bewilder his senses amidst the flowers of romance.

There are thousands of persons who have read more volumes than the best scholars and the most learned savans, who nevertheless have neither the accomplishments of the first nor the useful knowledge of the second. And why? because history philosophy, moral essays and other departments of reading and learning, have become forbidding in their insipidity, dullness and difficulty of comprehension. What a waste of time, what a dissipation of mental power, perhaps of high intellectual endowments!

These are matters of importance. They should not escape the attention of parents. It is not for us to point out what books should be read by youth, and what avoided, but we would express the opinion that there is more valuable information to be derived from those good old volumes of the Rambler and the Spectator, than nearly all the novels put together which crowd the shelves of our libraries. Should it be said that youth must have something to relieve their minds from the graver studies, we reply that we can find it in well-written histories, useful travels, pleasing biographies, the classics, modern as well as ancient, fictions of judicious selection, and in other branches of polite and valuable literature. When confined to these, they afford as many charms, both from the necessity which exists for mental food and their abstract and real merits, as can be found in the less legitimate walks of literature.

We will suppose now that the most suitable

books are placed in the hands of the young. The question is how can they be turned to the best account. Some waste many precious hours in writing off passages from the works they read, into scrap and common place books. They depend upon *reference* and not *memory*. This we deem bad policy, for it puts one in possession of what he reads only in a second hand, and often inconvenient manner. One should read for *ready use*, for obtaining the means for useful conversation, for oratorical effect, for instructive essaying, by the strength of *memory* and the *impres* of the mind. This is accomplished by reading and reflection. Let the young mind reflect upon what it reads, digest it and make it the mind's property. That can be done in less time and with less labor than it takes to fill up memorandum books, which when finished are their own, almost as ignorant as they are before.

We would not be understood as objecting to books of index, which merely refer to certain works, or pages, to assist one in readily turning to any given subject. These may be useful when properly arranged. Our objection is to that excessive toil of transcribing even whole pages from given works, as if the mere act of writing them off would make them the property of the mind.

We may refer to this subject soon again. Our limits will not permit its further prosecution now. We trust that what we have said, and which is intended for the benefit of the youth of both sexes, will not be wholly destitute of interest and utility.

### The Buena Vista.

A correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer, thus describes the field of Buena Vista, long after the sounds of the battle had died away; when the roar of cannon, the groans of the perishing, the shouts of the triumphant had all ceased, and the vulture and the jackal had retired from their horrible repast. Such a picture gives us quite as vivid an idea of the terrors of such a conflict, as would the actual scene.

"I first rode over the battle-field of Buena Vista with some half dozen officers, one of whom was Lieut. Bonham, Topographical Engineer, who shared the perils of the fight. He first led us by the long ditch, where repose the names of the Americans who fell in the battle. A hundred yards further we came to the narrow pass, between the base of a high hill and the deep canons or gullies, which the Mexicans call Angosturas, (the narrows,) where was stationed the battery of Col. Washington, with a small ditch on the right, in which lay two companies of marksmen; and on the high hill to the left, behind some loose rocks, hastily piled up, were posted some Illinois troops. A deep ditch was dug across the narrows, which are not more than 30 feet wide, in front of the battery. Next we passed up the valley, eleven hundred yards distant, to the spot where the discharges of Washington's battery stopped the onset of the host of Mexican cavalry that attempted a charge on his position. A few hundred yards further, behind the hills, is where the Mexican legions concentrated before the commencement of the action.— From the last named point we ascended to the plateau, where the main action took place, which, at a glance, appears to be a vast plain, but which, in reality, is broken by many ravines, stretching down from the mountains. Here and there, on the field, we passed an arm, a leg, or a skull of some Mexican, or a pile of their dead, who, having fallen in the battle, were hastily and slightly buried, and afterwards uncovered and mangled and scattered by beasts of prey. Passing further on, we looked upon the spot, beside a little bush, where Lincoln was laid to bleed to death; and down in a ravine, we arrived at the place where fell the amiable Clay, fighting to the last. There, too, fell Harding; and near by lies the Mexican (and his horse) whom Harding slew in his last moments. Here is the spot where Bragg made his memorable stand; and here lie his dead horses; and out there in front, is a huge pile of dead Mexicans, whom his grape shot cut down, and whose shrieks and groans arose above the noise of the conflict. Barrels and caps, and shoes, and fragments of various other clothing and grape shot, and bullets, and cartridges, and flints, and fragments of bombs, we met at every step. Over the whole field, eight miles in diameter, numerous evidences existed that there had been a fearful struggle. At the head of a ravine we reached the spot to which Bonham was sent, by Gen. Taylor, to reconnoiter the enemy, after one of their repulses. Bonham observed a crowd of Mexican lanceros about a half a mile distant, apparently in much confusion—some seeming anxious to come on and fight again, and some anxious to go the other way. In a few seconds, however, a cannon ball struck the ground on his right, and in ten feet of Bonham—half a minute longer, and another ball struck about the same distance on his left. Thinking the rebels might split the difference at the next fire, Bonham said he speedily vanished down the ravine, to make his report to Gen. Taylor. Then came the "ting of war"—and long and fearfully the battle raged. By scores the Mexican chivalry sunk down beneath the sweeping showers of grape and rifle bullets. Well did they fight, for Mexico's beloved and greatest Chief was a spectator of their struggle. And many a brave American, too, was destined to leave his last sigh, afar from the home of his childhood. The battle of Buena Vista produced a gap in many a happy circle, both in Mexico and America; vacant places were made, which never can be filled again on earth. No prisoners were taken in the battle; and the Mexicans, beaten, coward and starving, retreated at night in wild confusion, leaving their dead and wounded to the tender mercies of their victorious enemies.

A public meeting took place at Fayetteville on the first instant, protesting against the Internal Improvement Bill before the Legislature, and all other similar bills having for their object the issuance of State Bonds, or the endorsement of the bonds of incorporated companies, and requesting their members to vote against such measures; they earnestly request their fellow-citizens throughout the State to co-operate with them. We have no space for the proceedings at large.—*Nashville Whig*.

Columbus, Jan. 10.—The senate of Ohio, today passed a resolution declaring that the United States owe it to the cause of liberty, and ought to interfere, should Russia, or any other power, intermeddle with the internal affairs of other nations struggling for freedom.

### Alliances Offensive and Defensive.

The Norfolk (Va.) News thus endorses the views of Senator Douglas on the question of Intervention.

The extract is taken from his speech in the Senate.

"The following extract from a speech, lately delivered by Senator Douglas, deserves to be written in letters of gold:

"Sir, something has been said about an alliance with England to restrain the march of Russia over the European continent. I am free to say that I desire no alliance with England, or with any other crowned head. I am not willing to acknowledge that America needs England as an ally to maintain the principles of our government. Nor am I willing to go to the rescue of England to save her from the power of the Autocrat, until she assimilates her institutions to ours. Here is a half-way house between despotism and republicanism. She is responsible, as any power in Europe, for the failure of the revolutionary movements which have occurred within the last four years. English diplomacy, English intrigue, and English perfidy, put down the revolution in Sicily and in Italy, and was the greatest barrier to its success even in Hungary.

So long as England shall, by her diplomacy, attempt to defeat liberal movements in Europe, I am utterly averse to an alliance with her to sustain her monarch, her nobles and her privileged classes. England must sustain her constitutional monarchy, even against absolutism, without receiving aid from republican America with my consent, and especially so long as she condemns to imprisonment and transportation for life, the noble Irish patriots, whose only crime consisted in attempting that for which the poor Hungarian is now idolized by the English people. She must do justice to Ireland, and the Irish patriots in exile, and to the masses of her own people, by relieving them from the oppressive taxation imposed to sustain the privileged classes, and adopting republican institutions, before she can have my sympathy, much less my aid even against Russia. I wish no alliance with monarchs. No republican movement will ever succeed so long as the people put their trust in princes. The fatal error committed in Italy, in Germany, in France, wherever the experiment was tried, consisted in placing a prince at the head of the popular movement. The persons all sympathized with the dynasties from which they were descended, and seized the first opportunity to produce a re-action, and to betray the people into the hands of their oppressors.

There is reason to believe that much of this was accomplished through British diplomacy and intrigue. What more natural? The power of the British government is in the hands of the princes and the nobility. Their sympathies are all with the privileged classes of other countries, in every movement which does not effect the immediate interests of their own kingdom. Republicanism has nothing to hope therefore, from England, so long as she maintains her existing government, and preserves her present policy. I repeat, I desire no alliance with England. We require no assistance from her, and will yield none to her, until she does justice to her own people. The peculiar position of our country requires that we should have an American policy in our foreign relations, based upon the principles of our own government, and adapted to the spirit of the age. We should sympathize with every liberal movement—recognize the independence of all republics—from commercial treaties, and open diplomatic relations with them—protest against all encroachments of the laws of nations, and hold ourselves ready to do whatever our duty may require when a case shall arise.

*Cineas and Kossuth.*—The question is asked "who is Cineas, to whom Kossuth, in his speech at the banquet given him at Washington, likens himself?"

Cineas is chronicled as a burned Thessalian, the friend and minister of Pyrrhus, King of Epirus. He was the most eloquent man of his day, reminding his hearers of Demosthenes. Pyrrhus, prized his persuasive powers so highly, that he was wont to say, "words of Cineas had won him more cities than his own arms." He was sent ambassador to Rome, with proposals for a treaty of peace from Pyrrhus, after the battle of Heraclea, in the year 280, B. C., and Cineas spared neither art nor eloquence to gain favor and carry his point. His memory was so remarkable, that on the day after his arrival at Rome, he was able to address every Senator and Knight by name. The Senate, however, rejected his proposals, mainly through the dying appeals of the venerable Appius Claudius Cæcus. Cineas subsequently returned to Pyrrhus, and told him that there were no people like the Roman people—their city was a temple; and their Senate an assembly of Kings!

Governor Boutwell, in his Message to the Legislature of Massachusetts takes strong ground for Hungary. He is not only for giving Kossuth welcome as an illustrious exile, but that the Government of the United States should demand, through the diplomatic agents of the country, a distinct declaration on the part of Russia, and Austria as to their future purposes. If these Governments shall assert the right of interference in the domestic affairs of European nations, or shall decline to make a distinct declaration on this point, it would seem proper for the Government to give them notice that we assert on our part the right to interfere in favor of Republicanism or Constitutional Government, reserving the power to judge of the necessity of interference as events may transpire.

The following is the resolution passed by the House of Delegates, 50 to 16, of Maryland, disavowing the Kossuth doctrine of Intervention.—The Baltimore American says it embodies the sentiment of the people of Maryland on the subject.

Resolved, That while this body concur in the resolution of invitation extended to Louis Kossuth to visit this House, we, the representatives of the people of Maryland, do most emphatically disavow the doctrine of intervention, and do earnestly recommend to the people of this State the policy heretofore pursued by the General Government, in relation to the domestic contentions of foreign nations.

There will be five Sabbaths in the month of February of this year. The same will occur in 1880.

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 23, 1852.

THO. J. WARREN, Editor.

### Our Market.

Our Cotton Market has continued brisk, with an advance on Tuesdays quotations of 1-8. The supply has been good with an active demand. Extremes 6 1-2 to 8. Favorable advices from Europe were received last night, which will produce a further advance.

CHARLESTON, January 21, 1852.

1,000 bales of cotton were sold to-day, at 6 5-8 a 8 1-2.

New York, Jan. 21, 1852.

The cotton market was firm to-day. 1,500 bales were sold.

### Hon. D. Wallace.

Will accept our thanks for a copy of Mr. Rhett's Speech on the Compromise Resolutions, offered by Mr. Foote, of Mississippi.

### Hon. R. B. Rhett.

We learn from the Charleston Mercury that Mr. Rhett is detained from his seat in the Senate by severe indisposition. He is now at his plantation in St. Bartholomews.

### Sale in Charleston.

On Tuesday next, there will be a large sale of Groceries at Auction, in Charleston. See advertisement.

### Cold Weather.

We have had a spell of cold weather which surpasses any thing that we have ever felt. It is a hard matter to keep warm even by a good fire, and by far too cold to work. Our ink has been frozen up, and our ideas are in the same fix. We are informed that on Tuesday last, the Thermometer stood as low down as 4 deg.

### Professional Beggars.

We see that the attention of the public has recently been called by the Charleston Courier, to these miserable pests of society—the numerous organized bands of beggars which infest our country, and are daily fleecing the people and robbing the poor, of that which is properly their due. We too, would warn our friends against the impositions which are extensively practiced by these vile creatures upon them. Some of the beggars which are going through the country are as able to work as we are, but who prefer some trivial excuse—carrying an organ or a monkey, or some old cracked instrument, by which to attract crowds in the streets, and pick up dimes and quarters. It is no charity to give to these creatures; by giving to them, we only encourage them in their idleness, and give them the means of still pursuing their nefarious professions of highway swindling. It is time to put a stop to such humbuggery, and the sooner we rid ourselves of all such pests, the better will it be for us, in more ways than one.

We have a plenty of honest poor people at our very doors, worthy objects of charity, who we fear, have suffered this extreme cold weather for want of fire, and proper food and clothing. As good citizens and patriots, we should endeavor to do something for the poor whom Providence has placed among us, and not throw away our small donations upon wicked, worthless, foreign beggars. The same amount bestowed upon proper objects of charity, might do some good, but as it is, when given to these wandering professional beggars, it is a sinful waste. We don't know what object we are promoting when we give to these itinerant swindlers. They may be the hired emissaries of our enemies, and in the course of time may accomplish our ruin. Who can tell? We believe a tax, amounting to a prohibition, should be levied upon all organ-grinders and monkey shows, etc., and that all vagrants and idlers about our streets who are not known, should be taken up and made to give account of themselves; and if upon the showing thereof, it does not appear to the satisfaction of the proper authorities, let them all be provided for in the same manner which is done for Mr. John Smith when he beats his wife—put them in jail, and punish them for their idleness—it may be for doing nothing. Every man who is able ought to work; it is contrary to all law, human and divine, to prowl about and live in idleness, pests upon society. Those who encourage idleness by giving unworthily, even that which is their own, do not discharge the obligations of good citizens, whose highest aim, should be the peace and protection of society.

### Practical Intervention.

There are many deluded beings whose motto of universal benevolence to all the world "and the rest of mankind," is—

"No pent up Utica contracts our powers,  
But the whole boundless continent is ours."

These should bear in mind that while thousands of dollars are lavished upon distinguished strangers and foreigners, as many of their own blood and kind of fellow creatures, are perishing from cold and hunger.—What a picture to contemplate! What a strange anomaly does our country show to the world? Practical Intervention in this country, has nearly ruined us, and if let alone, may complete our ruin abroad.

### Fire at Stone Mountain.

We are sorry to see by the papers that nearly all the stores in the village of Stone Mountain, Ga., have been destroyed by fire; also the Masonic Hall, and the Hall of the Sons of Temperance, and several private dwellings, with a considerable amount of property, in the way of Goods, Notes, Books, &c., all consumed by fire on the 15th inst., and but little insured. Thought to be the work of an incendiary.

After paying the expenses attending the Kossuth Congressional Dinner, there was found to be a surplus of one hundred and eighty-two dollars. The Hon. Geo. Briggs, the Treasurer of the Committee of Arrangements, has been directed by them, to place the money in the hands of the Ladies Union Benevolent Society, to be expended for the comfort of the poor.

A WHOLE FAMILY POISONED.—The Hanover Herald states that the wife of Mr. SAMUEL LITTLE, (carpenter,) of Gettysburg, Pa., on Monday evening last, while laboring under a fit of mental aberration, administered poison to the family, consisting of her husband, three children, and a servant. The husband has since died, and the rest were not expected to survive. Mrs. LITTLE immediately fled, and has not been heard of since. The Hanover Spectator gives a different version of this affair. It says all the family are recovering, and Mrs. LITTLE has been arrested.

In New Orleans, it is said Wednesday last, was the coldest day ever known there.

MARBLE FOR THE CAPITOL WINGS.—It is stated that it has been decided that Massachusetts marble shall be used for the new wings of the Capitol, and that the laborers be employed by the day.

LOLA MONTES IN A ROW.—It is stated that those with whom LOLA MONTES was boarding in Waverly Place, New-York, had such a difficulty with her, that it was found necessary to call in the police to assist in forcibly ejecting her from the premises. Before they came, however, her counsel amicably arranged the difficulty.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE.—Major G. W. PATTES has been ordered to proceed to San Diego, in command of a detachment of men, who are sent out on account of the Indian hostilities in that quarter.

Correspondence of the Southern Standard.

WASHINGTON, 15th January, 1852.

The Southern boat, due here yesterday evening at 5 o'clock reached the wharf this morning at 8 o'clock, and did not make a return trip to-day; we are, consequently, without a Southern mail, and you will be minus one (at least) Northern mail. The ice has thickened very much, on the Potomac, but to-day has been mild and balmy overhead, but very sloppy under foot, and a few more of the same sort will again give us uninterrupted navigation. Mr. Woodward, and Gen. McQueen, with his lovely young bride, reached here yesterday, and Mr. Colecock to-day. Messrs. Rhett and Burt are still absent.

The Senate has been engaged for the last two days in discussing "flogging in the navy." Com. Stockton, now a Senator from New-Jersey, and who rode the waves of every sea and ocean, as an American officer, for twenty-five years, made a brilliant speech in opposition to the practice. Mr. Mallory, of Florida, made a capital speech on the other side of the question. You are aware that, two sessions ago, Congress, by law, abolished that punishment, and the debate now springs up on several petitions that have been presented to the Senate, praying the repeal of the law, and a return of the "good old practice" of giving Jack-rations of grog, and, when he deserves it, his licking. The original law was repealed, almost without debate in either House, and is the subject of general complaint in the navy. The prayer of the petitioners in this "humanizing" (?) age will, of course, be refused.

The House has been busy in receiving reports of committees, &c., for the last two days. They have also been discussing the bill making Bounty Land Warrants assignable, and for other purposes. A joint resolution, to this effect, passed the House at an early day of the session, but has not been acted upon by the Senate. While their action is suspended, some Western men revive that proposition—because it is universally popular—with a view of tacking to it a " rider," providing for additional compensation to the late and present Registers and Receivers for locating the land warrants that have been issued. It will impose a tax of three hundred thousand dollars on the Treasury, and a bill for the latter purpose could not obtain, on its own merits, fifty votes. Thus it is that the business of legislation is managed.

There will be an interesting debate in the House to-morrow, or perhaps on Monday, which is likely to be continued for some days, on the bill making an appropriation to pay the last installment of the Mexican indemnity. Mr. Webster has made an arrangement under which the previous instalments have been paid with Corcoran & Riggs, of this city, and the Baring, of London. The two Houses have made out of the operation, some two millions of dollars. It is alleged that an offer was made by the Greens of this city, to pay the debt through Mr. Marks, of New-Orleans, which arrangement met the sanction of the Mexican Government, and her Minister here, and drafts were actually drawn, pursuant to that arrangement, and which would have saved in the negotiation to this Government, five hundred thousand dollars, and saved to Mexico a larger sum, which has been extorted from her by these usurious bankers. The subject will be thoroughly sifted in the debate, and may exhibit some public functionaries in no enviable light.

Professor W. B. Rogers of the University of Virginia, is now delivering a course of Lectures at the Smithsonian Institute, on the atmosphere. His audiences are intelligent and fashionable.

OBSERVER.

Slaves for California.—On the last trip of the steamer Isabel from Charleston for Havana, twenty young men from Burke and Catawba counties, N. C., were passengers on route for California. They took with them twenty slaves, in the capacity of servants, with the intention of working them in the gold mines. Several other parties from North Carolina have engaged passage for themselves and their slaves, on the next trip of the Isabel.

Terrible Accident.—An accident similar to the recent calamity which occurred in a school house at New-York, occurred there on the 12th inst, in a large building back of Centre-street, put up by the Commissioners of Emigration for the accommodation of newly arrived emigrants. It was five stories in height, and on the various floors no less than 480 persons were stowed. The alarm bell in the vicinity rang for fire, and a woman in the upper part crying out, led the occupants to believe that the building was in flames, and a wild struggle ensued upon the stairs. The crowded soon choking up this only avenue of escape, quite a number leaped from the windows into the yard below. Six lives were lost, all of whom are children except one, an unknown young woman, aged 20. Eight others were carried to the hospital seriously injured, five of whom will probably die.

ALTERATION OF THE TARIFF.—It is stated that Senator James from Rhode Island will, with the approbation of several leading Democratic Senators, submit to the Senate in a few days, a project for a change in the tariff. It proposes a reduction of the rates of duties on some article of manufacture that enter into general consumption, and increases the rate of duty on the finer fabrics. It proposes to add ten per cent. to the present duties on iron, and the same upon fine cottons, and fabrics of cotton and wool, but leaves the present system unimpaired, in other respects.

A literary society has been established in San Francisco with the title of the California institute.